GF5301
PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND MICROFINANCE
IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
January 5-17, 2004

Course Location(s): Glendale campus
Course Credit: 3.0 credit hours
Faculty Coordinators: Glenn R. Fong, Joan Dudik-Gayoso, Antonio Gayoso
Maximum Number of Students who can Participate in this Program: 25

Course Description / Overview
This is an applied, skills-oriented course in international development with special focus on project management and microfinance in developing countries. Topics include project design, monitoring, evaluation and managing relations with national and international donor organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development and World Bank, as well as nongovernmental organizations involved in micro- and small and medium enterprise development, informal and community-based financing, and internet-based business development.

Classes will consist of lectures, discussions, interactive exercises, and possible field trips to non-bank small scale lending institutions in the area and possibly Mexico. Some lectures may involve guest speakers from relevant institutions and organizations.

The centerpiece of the class will be the design and presentation of student projects. Students will team up to design and present their own development projects related to microfinance, SME development, and community based banking in accordance with guidelines typical of a variety of funding agencies. They will gain experience in selecting among alternative approaches to address the needs of specific target groups; and learn the basic elements essential for project success, most frequent reasons for project failures, and how to respond to common project management issues.

Students will also learn the characteristics and expectations of different types of development institutions as well as issues involved in working with a variety of development partners. In addition, the instructors will share their experience and knowledge about careers in international development.
Faculty Coordinators
Glenn R. Fong, Associate Professor and Area Coordinator of International Studies (fongg@t-bird.edu), has been teaching at Thunderbird since 1992. In addition to his teaching and academic publications, Dr. Fong has been a consultant to the National Academy of Sciences’ Board on Science, Technology and Economic Policy; U.S. Congressional Office of Technology Assessment; Government of Japan, Ministry of International Trade and Industry; and IBM e-business Technology Consulting.

Joan Dudik-Gayoso (joandg@worldnet.att.net) has held senior positions at the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development, and Peace Corps. She served as negotiator and U.S. representative before the United Nations Development Program, FAO, and U.N. Commission on Science and Technology for Development. She has experience with program and policy analysis and budgeting, Africa, South Asia, food aid programs, and aid coordination and evaluation. She coordinated U.S. preparations for the World Summit for Children and the International Conference on Education for All. She has taught development at Georgetown University and George Washington University. She is a trainer/advisor on multilateral diplomacy for the State Department's Foreign Service Institute; on science and foreign policy for the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and on international careers for Women in International Security. She is a Board Member of the Society for International Development - Washington, and Vice President of the Board of InfoChange Foundation, which focuses on bringing advanced information technologies into the development effort at the community level.

Antonio Gayoso (antoniog@att.net) is an agricultural economist whose 30-year career encompassed senior positions in USAID and the Department of State. He was responsible for oversight of and represented the US Government before a number of UN development agencies including UNDP, FAO, WFP, and UNICEF. He was in charge of USAID social development programs including in rural development, microfinance, education, and behavior change. He has managed major analyses of agricultural credit and land tenure programs, and coordinated the U.S. government's preparations for the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. As Executive Director of the World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU) Washington Office, Mr. Gayoso followed legislative and policy issues, obtained funding for credit projects, and participated in the design and evaluation of community based lending programs. He has taught at American University and was assistant professor at the University of Florida. Currently, he is a partner in Global Expand, an internet based firm designed to identify business opportunities for small firms in Latin America, the United States, and Western Europe. He also conducts a weekly radio program in economics for Voice of America.

Prerequisites / Student Selection Process
• Prerequisite: GM 4000 International Political Economy

• Focus Area: This course is included as a part of the International Development focus area and the Customized Focus Area.
Faculty Expectations of Students
Expectations of students include: attendance and active participation in both discussions and the team project, completion of assigned readings and limited research/analysis necessary for the project, and the presentation and submission of the team project.

For the project, students will work in teams of 4-5 members, using a set of economic and social parameters/indicators related to a particular target group which could benefit from a microfinance, SME or community banking facility. Working within a framework of common/standard elements required for a fundable project, students will identify project goals and outcomes, and specify the resources (financial, human, and other) and methods by which the project will achieve its objectives. Instructors will also discuss criteria by which project progress and success will be measured and possible sources of financing. Some class time as well as out-of-class time will be devoted to preparing the project design.

Grading Policy / Student Evaluation
• Pass/Fail

Activities / Tentative Class Schedule
This course will meet daily over a two-week period: January 5 - January 17, 2004. In order to meet the full contact hours of a 3-credit course, class sessions will be held both in the morning (9:00AM-12:00PM) and afternoon (1:30PM-4:30PM) including possible Saturday sessions.

Costs / Estimated Living Expenses
• Tuition: $2790 for a 3 credit hour course
• Fees associated with fieldtrips (estimate): $300.00